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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: YAN et al.

Serial No.: 09/770,689

Filed: January 29, 2001

For: ISOLATED HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES
ENCODING THESE HUMAN RAS-LIKE
PROTEINS, AND USES THEREOF

Art Unit: 1642

Examiner: K. Canella

Atty. Docket: CL001079

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

APR 29 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action from Examiner Canella mailed on March 27, 2002 in which a restriction requirement was issued for the above referenced application.

By way of response, Applicants hereby elect claim group III, claims 4-6, 8-11 and 22-23, directed to nucleic acid molecules, vectors, host cells, etc., for examination and have canceled claims corresponding to the non-elected groups I-II, IV-V, and VII.

However, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the claim division and include claim 13 in the elected group. Specifically, the point of novelty of claim 13 is the nucleic acid molecules of the claim from which it depends, claim 5. The dependent claim 13 provides a specific use (method of detecting a nucleic acid of claim 5) of the subject matter and it is believed that examination of this claim would not unduly burden the Examiner with additional review issues.